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Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School

School Advisory Council/School Advisory Forum Joint Meeting

Minutes - September 30, 2025

Members: Quorum Met. Philippe Jean-Bart, Neeta Rancourt, Neila Atkinson, Sandra Welch, Rochelle Williams, Dulce Barrios, Logan Whitaker, Laila Jones, Laura Maracondes, Aly Petion, Laila Jones, Carol Lindgred, Sandra Rubio

Attendees: Brian Bush, Cathy Castelli, Hallema Collier, Debbie Evangelista, Jennifer Jennings, Vicky LaPorte, Simeka Love, Rhonda Matos, Rebecca Miller, Brian Norris, Jim Payne, Millie Puddie, Nicole Willis

**Call to Order:**

A meeting of the Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School Advisory Council was held in Room 122 of Atlantic Technical College on September 30, 2025. Chair Commissioner Sandra Welch called the meeting to order at 8:06 AM.

Dulce Barrios will record minutes for this meeting.

**Minutes:**

Rochelle Williams motioned for approval the minutes of May 6, 2025, with the corrections. Neila Atkinson seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Hallema Collier motioned to approve the SAC By-Laws, and the motion was seconded by Laura Maracondes. Motion was approved unanimously.

School Recognition Funds Proposal (Simeka Love) Since the school earned an "A" last year, a draft proposal ballot is included in your packet. The standard approach is to distribute 100% of the funds among faculty and staff. Proposal Two offers an alternative: "None of the above."

Hallema Collier motioned to approve. Second, by Aly Petion. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Agenda:**

1. **SAF Update (R. Miller)** – Parents expressed confusion and dissatisfaction with the rollout of the FOCUS system, especially around account creation and communication. Danny Trido addressed questions and offered support resources. There was discussion about the lack of school nurses across the district, 57 reportedly lack nurses. Fortunately, Atlantic Technical College does have a nurse. The district continues to hold meetings on possible school boundary changes and redefinition. While Atlantic Technical College may not be directly impacted, these changes could affect programming and services. Community members, especially those who are north of Sunrise Blvd, are encouraged to attend the final meeting tonight (09/30/25).
2. **SIP Update (Cathy Castelli)** – The first FAST progress monitoring test showed excellent results—82% of 9th graders and 87% of 10th graders passed, exceeding expectations. Students typically perform even better on the third test (PM3), which affects placement in future reading classes. ATC is on track with its goals.
3. **Director's Comments (Neeta Rancourt)** Business Supporter of the Year: Carol was honored by the Florida Association for Career and Technical Education. IET Student of the Year: A former Patient

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Care Assistant who became a Practical Nurse received state-level recognition. Atlantic Technical College has received several significant grants aimed at expanding and enhancing career dual enrollment and technical education programs. Capitalization Incentive Grants for dual enrollment in Applied IT and Patient Care Assistant programs. Previous grant supported Automotive, Business, Database Development, Programming, and Welding. NCLEX pass rates for ATC were 7.92% above the national average.

4. Neeta Rancourt – Strategic Plan: Six Wildly Important Goals for the year: One has already been achieved (to be revealed by Ms. Laporte). Increase Industry Certifications by 10%. Launch GATE Program: Free career and diploma pathway for students under the age of 22. Expand Ashe Campus: Plan to offer 2 new CTE programs this year. Improve Completion, Placement & Licensure Rates: Completion: 79% (above 60% minimum) Placement: 85% (above 70% minimum) Licensure: Above national average. Enrollment and Performance Data: CTE Enrollments (2022): 1,669 (Adult certificate and diploma program only) CTE Enrollment (Current) 1,787-slight increase, but still below target. Completion Rate" 79%, Placement Rate: 85%, Licensure Rate: Above national average.

10. Student Comments

- a. *Ali Petion* (BPA) The club is actively recruiting new members. The first information session was successfully held, and the club is now accepting payments. BPA currently has 32 members.  
Club Rush took place during high school lunch and Open House, providing students and parents with the opportunity to explore various clubs and meet staff members.
- b. *Logan Whitaker* (Machining) Field trip to visit machining interns: Several students were accepted into internships. One adult secured a job, and a grant was awarded to purchase mouse pads.
- c. *Laila Jones* (Health Science) Our health science programs continue to thrive with new student enrollments and dynamic learning experiences. New students have joined the EKG and Patient Care Technician (PCT) programs, while continuing students in Pharmacy Technician, Dental Assisting, and Practical Nursing are progressing through their training. Practical Nursing students are currently preparing for the HESI focused on Medical-Surgical content. A group of nursing students recently visited the Board of Nursing to observe real-life case proceedings, enriching their understanding of professional practice. Additionally, students have been actively engaged in hands-on learning through simulation lab sessions at the Arthur Ashe campus.  
ATC HOSA Club had its first meeting of the Academic Year. Club is scheduled to participate in ICE Skating Fundraiser on October 11. ATC HOSA is looking to recruit 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students who may be interested in health occupations.
- d. *Laura Marcondes* (Student Government Association) Tech Tiger event in August was a major success with 160 students. Lip sync battle was a success with students from all four grades getting involved in the friendly competition. Chocolate Box Fundraiser changed from 60 bars to 30 bars at \$2 each. The fundraiser will support the Anthony Rizzo Foundation, which provides direct financial assistance. Anthony Rizzo, prof. MLB first baseman, had Hodgkin's Lymphoma and vowed to make a foundation to help others.

11. Assistant Directors' Updates

- a. *Vicky LaPorte*--ATC is now a Magnet School of America Certified Demonstration School, one of only 19 nationwide and the only one in Broward County. School realigned its

technical academies and academic instruction to better integrate learning. Academic and technical instructors are collaborating on lesson plans and observations. ATC is an A-rated school across all student subgroups, with improved scores from last year (from 84% to 88%). Swimming for Life Saving program ensures students learn to swim and perform rescues—unique to this high school. Flower Baby Project in AP Psychology teaches responsibility and care. ACCUPLACER field trip encourages 9th graders to take college-level assessments. ATC leads the district in library book circulation, contributing to high academic performance. Family night on October 29th will include AI workshops for parents to support student learning.

- b. *Brian Bush*— Celebrated Adult Education & Family Literacy Week with student stories and cultural moments. Six GED graduates in September; new tradition celebrates student progress. Integrated Education and Training (IET) combines foundational learning with career training. IET students are now present in multiple programs, including HVAC, with support staff helping both targeted and general students. Successful flu shot drive; Walgreens praised pharmacy student clinicals.
- c. *Tammy Clabo*— Culinary Arts has hired a new chef, Lien, who joins ATC from Coral Springs High School. A Student Summit was held featuring guest speaker Nicole Willis, focusing on culinary arts. The reopening of Café Atlantic has been delayed due to ongoing construction; however, pop-up restaurants remain active and offer a diverse menu. Building 3 (the cafeteria) is expected to be completed by March 2026. Student restrooms across campus are currently under renovation. New intercom and fire alarm systems are being installed, and the sprinkler system is nearly complete. A new nurse clinic is under construction in Building 11. The walkway between Buildings 10 and 19, which collapsed in 2023, has a contractor assigned and is awaiting district approval to begin repairs.
- d. *James Payne*—Four students awarded \$5,000 scholarship each (needs-based, usable for tuition, books, etc.) New part-time social media coordinator hired to manage platforms (LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, Instagram)
- e. *Brian Norris*— Office of Student Affairs is now offering monthly campus tours for pre-college and prospective students, scheduled for October, February, and May. TIE (Transition into Employment) Program helps students with disabilities become self-sufficient. Currently, 85 students between the ages of 18 and 22 are enrolled in the program. Student Spotlight: Tinson Mesdor, a graduate of Bleach High School, is now in his second year at Technical College. He has earned his security license and gained two years of experience working with Marksman Security. Most recently, he began working at Fort Lauderdale Airport, where he is currently training to become a mechanic.
- f. *Jean Vilus*— ESOL 235-day students and 178-night students enrolled. ABE 27 students. Plans to install banners for the fences to advertise AGE program. Eleven PN students were pinned on September 15; 75 students enrolled. Next cohort starts October 27. Received recognition from Johnson funds and Florida Blue.

12. *Nicole Willis*— Business and Economic Development Update (*Nicole Willis*)— Unemployment rate: Broward 4.1%, Palm Beach 4.4%, Miami-Dade 2.9%. Conducts employability workshops and hosts company visits. Coordinated a meeting and guided tour of NovTech, Inc. Boutique provides professional attire for students. Tech Step Friday's monthly line dancing event to build confidence and social skills.

- 13. Business Highlight—No highlight at this time
- 14. SESIR Update (*Brian Bush*)—No incidents to report

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16. Announcements (*Commissioner Sandra Welch*) – Commended staff and students for jobs well done.
17. Adjournment (*Commissioner Sandra Welch*) – See below.

**Meeting Adjournment:**

Motion: Ali Petion motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 AM. Motion seconded by Laura Maracondes. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Dulce Barrios, Secretary

Approval Date:

**★ SAC Sign in Sheet for Atlantic Technical College and High School (2221)**

Date: _____		Time: _____			
#	SAC Member Full Name	Position	SBBC Employee	Parent of Student	Sign Here
1	Arquillano, Val	Community / Business Representatives	No	No	
2	Atkinson, Neila	Gifted Parent of a student at the school	No	Yes	
3	Barrios, Dulce	Non-Instructional Support Employees , SAC Secretary	Yes	No	
4	Dastgerdi, Sascha	Community / Business Representatives	No	No	
5	Grant, Corretta	I-Zone Representative (must be a parent)	No	Yes	
6	Guzman, Nahommy	ESE Parent of a student at the school	Yes	Yes	
7	Jean-Bart, Philippe	BTU Steward (or designee)	Yes	No	
8	Jones, Laila	Students (required for HS & Centers)	No	No	
9	Lindgren, Carol	Community / Business Representatives	No	No	
10	Maracondes, Laura	Students (required for HS & Centers)	No	No	

#	Date: _____		Time: _____		Sign Here
	SAC Member Full Name	Position	SBBC Employee	Parent of Student	
11	Petion, Aly	Students (required for HS & Centers)	No	No	
12	Rancourt, Neeta	Principal	Yes	No	
13	Triolo, Tammy	SAF Chair (or designee) Parent of a student at the school , Parent	No	Yes	
14	Welch, Sandra	SAC Chair	No	No	
15	Whitaker, Logan	Students (required for HS & Centers)	No	No	
16	Williams, Rochelle	Teacher	Yes	No	



## Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School School Advisory Council



Date: November 4, 2025

Name: Vicky LaPorte

Programs: High School

### Topic: Magnet High School Updates

- Over 40 juniors and seniors attended the Broward County Public Schools College Fair in Pembroke Pines on October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Thank you to the City of Coconut Creek for hosting an amazing presentation for City Government Week. Students from our U. S. Government classes attended a presentation to learn about the many things a city government does for its citizens. In addition, some of the students were selected to participate in a mock Commissioner's meeting.
- National Honor Society organized our Hispanic Heritage Festival incorporating music, dance, and informative displays to educate and entertain the attendees.
- Nurses from Broward Health North came to ATC to teach our students about the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. More than 200 students participated in the activity which included using "drunk goggles" to simulate how difficult it is to do something as simple as walking while intoxicated. Thank you Desi and Sasha from Broward Health North and Ms. Fort and the SADD Club for hosting.
- Ms. Puddie arranged for a career-based field trip to Cleveland Clinic with our students in the women of Tomorrow program. The students toured the hospital and participated in a panel presentation from women in health care related fields, followed by lunch in the café.
- Cupcakes and Collaboration was the theme for our School Advisory Forum family night. Parents and students enjoyed a sweet treat while learning about AI, including what it is, the different AI platforms, how it can be useful, and most importantly, the dangers it can impose. Thank you to the guidance team for coordinating the event and Mr. De Los Santos and Ms. Webber for presenting.
- Congratulations to Ms. Tonya Sevalia for being the October Teacher of the Month at the City of Coconut Creek Do the Right Thing Ceremony. Ms. Sevalia is a dynamic teacher who goes above and beyond for her students and ATC including sponsoring our Teen Political Form club which was awarded for the highest number of voter registrations at last year's Teen Voter Registration Drive. Also, thank you to the City of Coconut Creek for having this experience for the teachers and students in Coconut Creek.
- ATC High School was treated to a celebration in recognition for achieving the Magnet Schools of America – Certified National Magnet School. Thank you to all who worked on the team last year, and to those who planned this luncheon for the high school staff and the tech teachers with our high school students. The lessons we learned during the process last school year have led to many collaborative lessons between academic and technical teachers which is leading to some amazing educational experiences for our students.

- Our Literacy Coach, Jean Mason, has received a 2025 Education Micro-Grant in the amount of \$500 from the Coral Springs and Coconut Creek Regional Chamber of Commerce for her program entitled "From Page to Profession." She will receive the check during a ceremony at the Race for Education 5K & Micro-Grant Award Ceremony on November 8<sup>th</sup> at Tradewinds Park.
- The Florida Department of Education has named ATC as a 2024-2025 School of Excellence. This distinction is given to schools that earn a school grade in the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher for at least two to the last three school years.
- The Department of School Culture & Student Support has recognized ATC for achieving the No Place for Hate designation for the 2024-2025 school year for our dedication in creating a safe and supportive learning environment for all students.

## Collection Analysis

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The information provided in this section gives an overview of the entire library collection. Collection analysis is based on a Titlewave Analysis completed.



**5728**

Items in the Collection



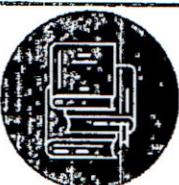
**2012**

Average Age of the Collection



**8.3**

Items per Student



**65%**

Fiction titles in the Collection



**31%**

Digital Resources



**28 %**

Aged Titles

Diverse library media resources. The resources provide "mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors" for students and teachers to see themselves in books and also learn about the lives of others through literature.



**48 %**

Diverse Titles in Collection



**2013**

Diverse Titles Average Age

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) library media resources can contribute to the **development of character and social-emotional skills.**



**47%**

SEL Titles in Collection



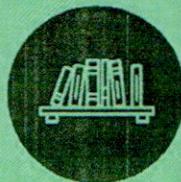
**2014**

SEL Titles Average Age

## Collection Analysis

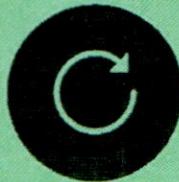
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The information provided in this section gives an overview of the entire library collection. Collection analysis is based on a Titlewave Analysis completed.



**5978**

Items in the Collection



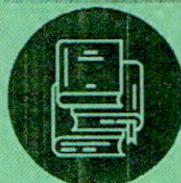
**2013**

Average Age of the Collection



**8.7**

Items per Student



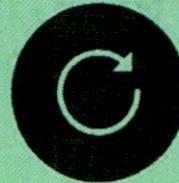
**65%**

Fiction titles in the Collection



**4%**

Digital Resources



**29 %**

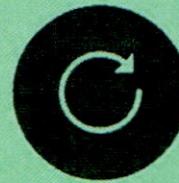
Aged Titles

Diverse library media resources. The resources provide "mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors" for students and teachers to see themselves in books and also learn about the lives of others through literature.



**47 %**

Diverse Titles in Collection



**2014**

Diverse Titles Average Age

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) library media resources can contribute to the ***development of character and social-emotional skills.***



**47%**

SEL Titles in Collection



**2015**

SEL Titles Average Age



## Atlantic Technical College & Technical High School School Advisory Council



**Date: November 4, 2025**

**Programs: Career Center Services and Business News/  
Nicole Willis**

**Topic: Employability Skills Training**

- The Career Center offers several employability workshops for all students. The newest topic focuses on how to use AI ethically for resume development and other employability activities.
- Tech Step Fridays was held on October 24, 2025. The activity provides a great avenue to display leadership and other soft skills in a fun and welcoming environment.

**Topic: Business Community Outreach**

- Manpower was on campus this month to recruit for positions at Bosch.
- Atlantic Technical College is a member of Coral Springs Coconut Creek Regional Chamber and Pompano Beach Lighthouse Point Margate Chamber of Commerce. Attendance at the meeting provides an opportunity to share information about the institution and to also network with local business.

**Topic: Upcoming Events**

- On November 18<sup>th</sup> Coral Springs Coconut Creek Regional Chamber will host a clothing drive for the ATC Interview Boutique during its monthly Wake Up Breakfast meeting.
- The next Tech Step Fridays events are being held on November 21<sup>st</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup> on ATC's Main Patio.
- Spring Career Fair 2026 – The ABCs is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2026, from 9:00 am to Noon.